

the foundations of peace for decades to come.

And that's not the only reason I'm optimistic about the decades ahead, because I'm standing in front of America's future leaders. When you follow your conscience and the ideals you have sworn as a Scout, there is no limit to what you can achieve for our country. Continue to make right choices in life. Continue to set high standards. Continue to be a leader.

Thanks for hosting me tonight. May God bless you all, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:19 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Eagle Scout Daniel Valella of Dallas, TX, who introduced the President; John C. Cushman, president, and Roy L. Williams, chief scout executive, Boy Scouts of America; Fran Olmstead, chairman, and Maj. Gen. John Yingling, task force commander, 2005 National Scout Jamboree.

Remarks on the Recess Appointment of John Bolton as Ambassador to the United Nations

August 1, 2005

The President. Nearly 5 months ago, I nominated John Bolton to be America's Ambassador to the United Nations. I chose John because of his vast experience in foreign policy, his integrity, and his willingness to confront difficult problems head-on. I told the Nation that John Bolton would provide clear American leadership for reform at the United Nations. I told them that he would insist upon results.

The United States Senate held thorough confirmation hearings, and a majority of United States Senators agree that he is the right man for the job. Yet because of partisan delaying tactics by a handful of Senators, John was unfairly denied the up-or-down vote that he deserves.

As a result, America has now gone more than 6 months without a permanent Ambassador to the United Nations. This post is too important to leave vacant any longer, especially during a war and a vital debate about U.N. reform. So today I've used my constitutional authority to appoint John Bolton to serve as America's Ambassador to the United Nations. John Bolton will be an important member of my State Department team, led by Condoleezza Rice.

I'm sending Ambassador Bolton to New York with my complete confidence. Ambassador Bolton believes passionately in the goals of the United Nations Charter, to advance peace and liberty and human rights. His mission is now to help the U.N. reform itself to renew its founding promises for the 21st century. He will speak for me on critical issues facing the international community, and he'll make it clear that America values the potential of the United Nations to be a source of hope and dignity and peace.

As he embarks on his new assignment, Ambassador Bolton will bring tremendous wisdom and expertise. Over the past two decades, John Bolton has been one of America's most talented and successful diplomats. He's been a tireless defender of our Nation's values and a persuasive advocate for freedom and peace. As a senior leader at the State Department in the 1980s and 1990s, he brought people together to achieve meaningful results at the United Nations, from resolving payment issues to helping rally the coalition in the Persian Gulf war to repealing a shameful resolution that equated Zionism with racism. And over the past 4 years as Under

Secretary of State, he's shown valuable leadership on one of the most urgent challenges of our time: preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

Ambassador Bolton takes up his duties at a time of opportunity for the United States and the United Nations. America and the U.N. are working to spread democracy, relieve hunger, and assist the victims of disaster. We've delivered hope to millions suffering from HIV/AIDS and other deadly diseases. We've helped to lay the groundwork for two landmark events in the history of liberty, the free elections of Afghanistan and Iraq. Ambassador Bolton will work to build on that progress by helping the U.N. continue to find effective new ways to match its good intentions with good results.

As the newest member of America's diplomatic corps, Ambassador Bolton will defend our Nation's interests with character and resolve that were instilled early in life. John's father was a firefighter. His mother

was a homemaker who took her son to the public library to show him the value of education. I know that Jack and Virginia Bolton would be proud today to see the boy they raised in Baltimore appointed to serve as our permanent representative to the United Nations.

I'm grateful to John's wife, Gretchen, for being here with us and to the entire Bolton family for their service and sacrifice.

Mr. Ambassador, thank you for agreeing to serve your Nation once again, and congratulations.

[At this point, Ambassador Bolton made brief remarks.]

The President. Thanks, John. Appreciate you.

All right, thank you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:01 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Ambassador Bolton.

Statement on the Death of King Fahd bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia

August 1, 2005

I was deeply saddened to learn today of the death of King Fahd bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. King Fahd was a man of wisdom and a leader who commanded respect throughout the entire world. He was a friend and strong ally of the United States

for decades. As King, he had warm friendships with American Presidents. I send my condolences and those of the American people to King Abdallah, to the late King Fahd's family, and to the Saudi people on the passing of this historic figure. May God bless him.